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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Applicants : C. Harry Knowles, Sankar Ghosh, Shawn Defoney, Edward Skypala and Mark C. Schmidt
Application Serial No.: 10/091,339
Filing Date : March 5, 2002
Title: OBJECT IDENTIFICATION AND ATTRIBUTE INFORMATION ACQUISITION AND LINKING COMPUTER SYSTEM
Examiner : Thien Le
Group Art Unit : 2876
Attorney Docket No. : 108-151USAN90

Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT UNDER RULE 312(a)

SIR:

Prior to payment of Issue Fee in the present Application, please amend the same as follows:

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 669-689 as follows:

Claims 1-668 (canceled)

Claim 669 (currently amended): An object identification and attribute information tracking and linking computer system having a stand-alone form factor, and capable of being connected to the communication medium of a data communication network, said object identification and attribute information tracking and linking computer system comprising:

a housing;

a first set of data input port connectors mounted on the exterior of said housing, for connection to one or more object identification data generating sources and capable of receiving object identity data elements from said one or more object identification data generating sources using a networking protocol, wherein said object identification data generating ~~source~~ sources are disposed external to said housing;